

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2270

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 3140

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ARYAL, KRISHNA RAJ)

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: (A) KATHMANDU 2467

(B) STATE 128254

(C) KATHMANDU 2578

1. MFA JOINT SEC BHATT CALLED DCM JULY 10 AT FONMIN'S BEHEST TO INDICATE LATTER'S DESIRE TO VISIT WASHINGTON THIS FALL. BHATT ASKED WHETHER EMBASSY WOULD ASCERTAIN SUITABILITY OF WASHINGTON VISIT BY ARYAL IN CONNECTION HIS PROJECTED TRIP TO ATTEND LIMA NON-ALIGNED MEETING AUGUST 25-28 AND INITIAL PORTION OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA SEPT 1-6. BHATT SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF TWO-DAY STOPOVER EITHER IN PERIOD AUGUST 19-22 OR SEPT 8-9. FONMINWOULD HOPE TO CALL ON SECRETARY KISSINGER AND OTHER SENIOR DEPT OFFICIALS.

2. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE VISIT DCM EXPLAINED TO BHATT THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH MIGHT BE ENCOUNTERED IN ARRANGING MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY GIVEN HIS EXTREMELY BUSY SCHEDULE. BHATT RESPONDED THAT THE FONMIN FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM AND WOULD WANT TO COME TO WASHINGTON EVEN IF THE SECRETARY WERE TO BE UNAVAILABLE.

3. IT WOULD, OF COURSE, BE DESIRABLE IF APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY COULD BE SCHEDULED, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE

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FACT THAT THE SECRETARY WAS NOT ABLE TO VISIT NEPAL

DURING HIS SOUTH ASIA TRIP LAST YEAR. APART FROM QUESTION OF POSSIBLE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, WE WOULD HOPE THAT FONMIN WOULD BE ABLE TO CALL ON DUPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL AND UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND THAT APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL SOCIAL FUNCTION COULD BE ARRANGED IN HIS HONOR. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FONMIN IS CONSIDERING A NUMBER OF STOPOVERS AND IS HOLDING UP ON OTHER PLANS PENDING THE WORKING OUT OF TIMING OF POSSIBLE WASHINGTON VISIT.

4. PLEASE ADVISE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE DATES PREFERRED FOR VISIT. CARGO

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